

Message Text

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40

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-07 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 DRC-01 /096 W

----- 008579

R 290923Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9536

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMECONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PRETORIA 1296

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, RH, SF

SUBJECT: ALLEGATION OF ATROCITY BY TWO SOUTH AFRICAN
POLICEMEN IN RHODESIA.

1. EARLIER THIS WEEK IT WAS REPORTED IN PRESS HERE THAT
AFRICAN MEMBER OF RHODESIAN HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY HAD CHARGED THAT
TWO SOUTH AFRICAN POLICEMEN ON PATROL OF NORTHEASTERN BORDER
HAD KILLED AFRICAN BABY LAST DECEMBER. ALLEGATION DREW LITTLE
ATTENTION IN SA UNTIL TODAY, MARCH 29.

2. IN FRONT PAGE, HEADLINE ARTICLE THIS MORNING'S RAND
DAILY MAIL REPORTS THAT RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY
REJECTED PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION BY MR. RONALD SADOWBA,
WHO HAD MADE THE ACCUSATION EARLIER, THAT HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
ESTABLISH COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGED
ATROCITIES BY SECURITY FORCES IN "TERRORIST-HIT AREAS."
ARGUING IN FAVOR OF MOTION OPPOSITION RHODESIA PARTY LEADER
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ALLAN SAVORY STATED THAT WHITE RHODESIA NEEDED SUPPORT OF

BLACK POPULATION IN WAR AGAINST TERRORISM, AND IF NO
INVESTIGATION MADE OF ATROCITY ALLEGATION, BLACK SUPPORT
BOUND TO BE LOST.

3. RHODESIAN MINDEFENSE HOWMAN SAID THERE NO JUSTIFICATION
FOR INVESTIGATION AND MINJUSTICE AND LAW AND ORDER
LARDNER-BURKE VEHEMENTLY DENIED CHARGE ABOUT TWO SA POLICEMEN.
SADOMBA'S MOTION WAS DEFEATED BY 35 VOTES 15.

4. WHEN MAIL REPORTED TELEPHONED A SENIOR SA POLICE OFFICER
AT BINDURA, RHODESIA, YESTERDAY AND ASKED IF TWO SA
POLICEMENT HAS BEEN DETAINED THERE IN DECEMBER IN CONNECTION
WITH ALLEGATION THAT AFRICAN CHILD HAD BEEN KILLED, HE
DECLINED TO COMMENT. OBVIOUSLY, HOWEVER, MATTER WILL NOT
END WITH THIS, AND COULD BECOME CAUSE CELEBRE.
HURD

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Message Attributes

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